

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **cancel claims 1-3, 8, 9, 24, 29-33, 35, 36, and 39-62** without prejudice or disclaimer; **amend claims 4-7, 10-23, 25-28, 34, 35, 37, and 38** as follows; and **add claims 63-89** as indicated below:

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 63, wherein the code is associated with ~~[[the]]~~ recorded data ~~[[set]]~~ of a recording session by allocating an identification symbol to said code.

5. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~[[3]]~~ 63, wherein the code is ~~stored~~ recorded by being written as an entry to a memory and ~~wherein writing~~ said identification symbol ~~is also written~~ to the memory.

6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~[[3]]~~ 5, wherein the memory is ~~incorporated within~~ in a memory device.

7. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~[[3]]~~ 5, wherein the memory is a dedicated area of ~~[[tape]]~~ the medium set aside for this purpose.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein the identification symbol is [[the]] a number corresponding to the position of a particular code entry within a sequence of such code entries.

11. (Currently amended) A method according to claim [[1]] 63, wherein the method includes the further steps of:

reading back a data set from the [[tape]] medium the data representing the recorded data of each session and creating a further code representative of the content of the data [[set]] representing the recorded data of each session as read back from the ~~tape,~~ medium;

comparing the two codes; and

confirming the data [[set]] representing the recorded data of each session as valid only [[if]] in response to an indication of the two codes ~~agree~~ agreeing.

12. (Currently amended) A method according to claim [[8]] 63, wherein ~~at least~~ the codes created ~~during~~ as a result of writing of the data [[sets]] representing the recorded data of each session to the [[tape]] medium are written as entries to a table in the memory, and identifying ~~in which~~ each entry is ~~identified~~ by its position within the table.

13. (Currently amended) A method according to claim **[[1]] 63**, wherein said ~~code is~~ codes include a signature.

14. (Currently amended) A method according to claim **[[1]] 63**, wherein said ~~code is~~ codes include a checksum or a CRC (cyclic redundancy check).

15. (Currently amended) A method according to claim **6**, wherein the memory device **[[is]]** includes a memory of a cartridge memory, the medium being a tape in the cartridge.

16. (Currently amended) A method according to claim **4**, wherein said identification symbol ~~is numeric~~ includes a number.

17. (Currently amended) A method according to claim **16**, wherein said identification symbol **[[is]]** includes an integer.

18. (Currently amended) A method according to claim **[[8]] 63**, wherein each time **[[a]]** the data **[[set]]** representing the recorded data of each session is written to the **[[tape]]** medium and a corresponding associated code is written to the memory, the next code representative of the next data set is entered as the next entry to the memory.

19. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~8~~ wherein ~~there is included the step of~~ 63, further including keeping count of the total number of codes written to the memory.

20. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 19, wherein ~~there is included the step of~~ further including checking whether or not a predetermined number of entries has been exceeded~~[[,]]~~ and, if it has, reporting the ~~[[tape]]~~ medium as read only.

21. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 20, wherein said predetermined number of entries is 16.

22. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~1~~ wherein ~~there is included the steps of~~ 63, further including: [[-]]

comparing the associated code with information held on a secure database~~[[,]]~~; and

confirming the ~~[[tape]]~~ medium and/or the data contained thereon as valid only if the code and its association with ~~a particular~~ the data ~~[[set]]~~ representing the recorded data of each session agree with the information held on the secure database.

23. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 22, wherein said information held on the secure database includes a secure copy of the code.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently amended) A method according to claim **22**, wherein the comparing and/or confirming steps are carried out by a controlling software application.

26. (Currently amended) A method according to claim **11**, wherein the comparing and/or confirming steps are carried out by a controlling software application.

27. (Currently amended) A method according to claim **22**, wherein the comparing and/or confirming steps are carried out by ~~means of an external reader which is able to access~~ that accesses and/or ~~display~~ displays information recorded in the memory.

28. (Currently amended) A method according to claim **11**, wherein the comparing and/or confirming steps are carried out by ~~means of an external reader which is able to access~~ that accesses and/or ~~display~~ displays information recorded in the memory.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~[[32]]~~ 11, wherein the first named code is ~~stored~~ recorded by ~~being~~ causing the first named code to be written as an entry to a memory device.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 63, wherein ~~the or~~ each code creating step is carried out by apparatus used to write to and/or read from the ~~[[tape]]~~ medium.

38. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 63, wherein ~~the or~~ each code creating step is carried out by a controlling software application.

39-62. (Cancelled)

63. (New) A method of protecting data recorded during plural data recording sessions to a data storage medium, the sessions occurring at different times, the method comprising:

creating a code after each data recording session has been completed, the code created after each data recording session

representing the recorded data and the session during which the data was recorded;

making a record of the created codes and advancing the record of the created codes so that the new code that is created after each data recording session is added to the record of the created codes; and

preventing overwriting of code within the record of the created codes after completion of a data recording session.

64. (New) Apparatus for protecting data recorded in successive data recording sessions on a data storage medium, the apparatus comprising a processor arrangement for:

creating a code after each data recording session has been completed, the code created after each data recording session representing the recorded data and the session during which the data was recorded;

making a record of the created codes and advancing the record of the created codes so that the new code that is created after each data recording session is added to the record of the created codes; and

preventing overwriting of code within the record of the created codes after completion of a data recording session.

65. (New) Apparatus according to claim **64**, wherein the code is associated with recorded data of a recording session, and the processor arrangement is arranged for allocating an identification symbol to the code.

66. (New) Apparatus according to claim **64**, wherein the processor arrangement is arranged for recording the codes by writing the codes as entries to a memory and for writing the identification symbol to the memory.

67. (New) Apparatus according to claim **66**, wherein the memory is included in a memory device.

68. (New) Apparatus according to claim **66**, wherein the memory is included in a dedicated area of the medium, the dedicated area being set aside for this purpose.

69. (New) Apparatus according to claim **65**, wherein the processor arrangement is arranged to write the identification symbol as a number corresponding to the position of a particular code entry within a sequence of such code entries.

70. (New) Apparatus according to claim **64**, wherein the processor arrangement is arranged for:

reading back from the medium data representing the recorded data of each session and creating a further code representative of the

content of the recorded data of each session as read back from the medium;

comparing the two codes; and

confirming as valid the recorded data of each session only in response to an indication that the two codes agree.

71. (New) Apparatus according to claim **64**, wherein the processor arrangement is arranged to (a) create the medium as a result of writing the recorded data of each session to the medium as entries to a table in the memory, and (b) identifying each entry by its position within the table.

72. (New) Apparatus according to claim **64**, wherein said processor arrangement is arranged to create the codes so they include a signature.

73. (New) Apparatus according to claim **64**, wherein the processor arrangement is arranged to create the codes so they include a checksum or a cyclic redundancy check.

74. (New) Apparatus according to claim **67**, wherein the memory device includes a memory of a cartridge, the medium is a tape in the cartridge, and the processor arrangement is arranged to write the codes on the memory of the cartridge.

75. (New) Apparatus according to claim **65**, wherein the identification symbol includes a number.

76. (New) Apparatus according to claim **75**, wherein the identification symbol includes an integer.

77. (New) Apparatus according to claim **64**, wherein the processor arrangement is arranged so that each time the data representing the recorded data of each session is written to the medium and a corresponding associated code is written to the memory, the next code representative of the next data set is entered as the next entry to the memory.

78. (New) Apparatus according to claim **64**, wherein the processor arrangement is arranged for keeping count of the total number of codes written to the memory.

79. (New) Apparatus according to claim **78**, wherein the processor arrangement is arranged for checking whether a predetermined number of entries has been exceeded, and if it has, reporting the medium as a read-only medium.

80. (New) Apparatus according to claim **79**, wherein said predetermined number of entries is 16.

81. (New) Apparatus according to claim **64**, wherein the processor arrangement is arranged for:

(a) comparing the associated code with information held on a secure database; and

(b) confirming the medium and/or the data contained thereon as valid only if the code and its association with the data representing the recorded data of each session agree with the information held on the secure database.

82. (New) Apparatus according to claim **81**, wherein said information held on the secure database includes a secure copy of the code.

83. (New) Apparatus according to claim **81**, wherein the processor arrangement includes a controlling software application for comparing and/or confirming operations.

84. (New) Apparatus according to claim **70**, wherein the processor arrangement includes a controlling software application for performing the comparing and/or confirming operations.

85. (New) Apparatus according to claim **81**, wherein the processor arrangement includes an external reader for accessing and/or displaying information recorded in the memory and for performing the comparing and/or confirming operations.

86. (New) Apparatus according to claim 70, wherein the processor arrangement includes an external reader for accessing and/or displaying information recorded in the memory and for performing the comparing and/or confirming operations.

87. (New) Apparatus according to claim 70, wherein the processor arrangement is arranged to record the first named code stored by causing the first named code to be written as an entry written to a memory device.

88. (New) Apparatus according to claim 64, wherein the processor arrangement is arranged to perform each code creating step ~~written by~~ writing to and/or ~~read~~ reading from the medium.

89. (New) Apparatus according to claim 64, wherein the processor arrangement includes a controlling software application for performing each code creating step.